

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus comprising:  
    metadata acquisition means for acquiring metadata  
    of content;  
    metadata analysis means for analyzing an attribute  
    of said metadata acquired by said metadata acquisition  
    means;  
    dictionary generation means for generating  
    dictionary data for correlating said attribute with an  
    attribute item contained in said attribute on the basis  
    of an analysis result acquired by said metadata analysis  
    means; and  
    database generation means for assigning said  
    attribute item to metadata acquired by said metadata  
    acquisition means on the basis of said dictionary data  
    generated by said dictionary data generation means and  
    storing said metadata assigned with said attribute item  
    into a database.
2. An information processing apparatus according  
    to claim 1, wherein said dictionary generation means  
    detects, from among words contained in said metadata, a  
    word which is high in co-occurrence in metadata having a  
    particular attribute item as a keyword of said attribute  
    item, thereby correlating said attribute item of said

metadata with said keyword.

3. An information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said dictionary generation means deletes an unnecessary word included in said metadata.

4. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said database generation means assigns a genre to said metadata as said attribute item.

5. An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

extraction means for extracting interest data indicative of user interest;

search means for extracting a keyword from said interest data extracted by said extraction means, searching, on the basis of said keyword, said dictionary data generated by said dictionary generation means for acquiring a genre corresponding to said keyword, and searching, on the basis of said genre, said database generated by said database generation means; and

presentation means for presenting information retrieved by said search means;

wherein a user evaluation entered in response to said information presented by said presentation means is reflected on the extraction of said interest data.

6. An information processing apparatus according

to claim 1, wherein said metadata analysis means comprising:

resolving means for resolving said metadata into components; and

storage means for collecting said metadata resolved by said resolving means for each attribute item, and storing the collected metadata.

7. An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein, on the basis of the components included in said metadata, said database generation means complements a component which is not included in said metadata.

8. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said database generation means assigns, as said attribute, a popularity category to the metadata acquired by said metadata acquisition means.

9. An information processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said dictionary generation means generates a dictionary of said popularity category on the basis of a keyword contained in said metadata, and said database generation means assigns said popularity category of said metadata on the basis of said dictionary.

10. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, on the basis of a keyword contained

in said metadata, said database generation means assigns, as said attribute of said metadata, an association category for associating a plurality of attribute items associated with said keyword.

11. An information processing method comprising the steps of:

acquiring metadata of content;  
analyzing an attribute of said metadata acquired in said metadata acquisition step;

generating dictionary data for correlating said attribute with an attribute item contained in said attribute on the basis of an analysis result acquired in said metadata analysis step; and

generating a database by assigning said attribute item to metadata acquired in said metadata acquisition step on the basis of said dictionary data generated in said dictionary data generation step, and by storing said metadata assigned with said attribute item into a database.

12. A program for making a computer execute the controlling steps of:

acquiring metadata of content;  
analyzing an attribute of said metadata acquired in said metadata acquisition step;

generating dictionary data for correlating said attribute with an attribute item contained in said attribute on the basis of an analysis result acquired in said metadata analysis step; and

generating a data base by assigning said attribute item to metadata acquired in said metadata acquisition step on the basis of said dictionary data generated in said dictionary data generation step, and by storing said metadata assigned with said attribute item into a database.

13. A recording medium recording a program for making a computer execute the controlling steps of:

acquiring metadata of content;  
analyzing an attribute of said metadata acquired in said metadata acquisition step;

generating dictionary data for correlating said attribute with an attribute item contained in said attribute on the basis of an analysis result acquired in said metadata analysis step; and

generating a data base by assigning said attribute item to metadata acquired in said metadata acquisition step on the basis of said dictionary data generated in said dictionary data generation step, and by storing said metadata assigned with said attribute item into a

database.